

# THE SCROLL

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O'GORMAN HIGH SCHOOL | SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

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## College loan plan stirs unease, discussion

Lauren Bird  
Faith Co-Editor

With heightened college tuition around the country and a recession underway, President Obama's plan to alleviate student loans could not have come at a better time.

The Obama student loan forgiveness program states that

anyone who makes their monthly payments for 20 years after leaving college is qualified to have their remaining balance forgiven.

This program is intended to help ensure that individuals do not become broke because they chose to pursue a higher education.

"We want you in school," Obama said according to USA

Today. "But we shouldn't saddle you with debt when you're start-

**Simply forgiving those loans will create other problems.**  
- Michaela Kouri

ing off."

Though the change will not

be blatantly noticeable, the point is payments have been lowered and the time in which one must pay before the remaining balance is forgiven has been shortened.

"When a big chunk of every paycheck goes toward student loans, instead of being spent on other things, that's not just tough for middle-class families," Obama

said according to *USA Today*. "It's painful for the economy, and it's harmful to our recovery, because that money's not going to help businesses grow."

Senior Michaela Kouri, who plans to attend SDSU next fall, is skeptical about the outcome of this program.

See **COLLEGE** page 2

## Redistricting of SD counties provides necessary challenge

Tom Breske  
Sports Co-Editor

Various subcommittees gathered 13 times in Pierre this summer to decide on the changes that needed to be made to the South Dakota districts.

"It was a very long process," said local representative Hal Wick. "[The committees] had to put together maps of the districts and make sure that we were following the federal law."

Every 10 years, the federal census measures change in population. In compliance with federal law, state representatives are required to redistrict.

Redistricting involves the South Dakota House of Representatives adjusting the size of



State Rep. Hal Wick

districts to accommodate changes in population.

The bill to redistrict was officially passed in congress on Oct. 24, 2011, and will take effect immediately.

"Some districts became much larger, because of a lack of population," said Wick.

See **REDISTRICTING** page 2

## Sioux Falls Police Dept. share safety tips on how to protect against theft

Ellen Nelson  
Editor-in-Chief

Despite the recent swell of publicized crimes, the crime rate in Sioux Falls over the past year is only slightly increased.

"Our robberies are up, but nowhere near the numbers that you might see in the other cities of similar size around the country," said Chief of Police Doug Barthel. "Crimes like robbery make the news, so the public has the perception that they occur the most."

However, Barthel said that this perception is not true. Lesser

crimes are actually more common in the area. "We have seen the biggest increase in property crimes; things like thefts and burglaries," he said.

The increase in these sorts of crimes can be credited to the economy as people might feel forced to commit a felony or see it as an easy way out, said Barthel. "Some of the more violent crimes can be attributed to drug usage."

"Another thing that comes up is a lot of the time when you see one successful incident it tends to breed additional people to

See **CRIME** page 2



ELLEN NELSON / KNIGHT SCROLL

Mrs. Jennifer Leigh helps a student with his Tragedies in History homework. Leigh returned to O'Gorman at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year after battling bacterial meningitis.

## Mrs. Leigh returns to school after hospitalization last year

Kayler Nelson  
Staff Writer

After months of life-threatening illness, Mrs. Jennifer Leigh has been warmly welcomed back to the O'Gorman High School community.

During Thanksgiving break last year Leigh contracted a case of bacterial meningitis, a serious infection that, in some cases, can cause death within hours.

"They told my family I had stage eight bacterial meningitis – and there is no stage nine," said Leigh. "So in other words, it was very severe. I'm lucky to even be alive."

Although many memories have returned since she returned from the hospital, Leigh said that she is still having trouble recollecting the three to four months before getting sick. She said that it is possible they will never return.

Leigh was hospitalized from November to January and unable to teach for the remainder of the year.

"Everyone was shocked," said assistant principal Joan Mahoney. "She was perfectly healthy before Thanksgiving Break, so to hear that she had become so ill in just a matter of days was very alarming to all of us," she said.

"It's great being back," said Leigh, who returned to O'Gorman at the beginning of the school year. "It's just so much fun."

Many students worried about Leigh's health over the last year and are pleased to see her doing well again.

"We're so glad she's finally back," said junior Aubrey Kagarise. "I prayed for her health everyday and hoped that she could light up the school once again."

Leigh had previously taught science classes including physical science, chemistry, chemistry in the community, biology and AP Biology. She has now taken a position in the Academic Services Department.

"I love helping students become the best they can be," said Leigh. "It's a great feeling."

"I think we are all grateful for the job Mrs. Leigh is doing in the Academic Services Department this year," said Mahoney. "Both the faculty and the students are excited to have Mrs. Leigh back in our building."

Not only did Leigh return to O'Gorman full of life and admirable pep, but she returned with a new catchphrase, "What doesn't kill you can only make you stronger - and a little bit more ornery!"

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## Letter from the Editor

It always surprises me how quickly the school year passes. One day, the school year is just beginning and the next thing you know the first semester is almost over.

But considering how busy many O'Gorman students are, time should almost be expected to pass with little notice.

After all, when one is continuously practicing for multiple sports or activities for hours after school – in addition to added homework – it's a surprise we're even functioning by the end of the first semester.

I know that I'm not the only student at O'Gorman High School to be involved in multiple activities. Nor am I the only student to lose a wee bit of sleep to



give multiple activities (and sometimes school work) my all.

So I pose a challenge for everyone reading this edition of the *Knight Scroll*: Take the opportunity to rest and relax some over Christmas break.

Now I'm not advocating sitting on the couch for two weeks moving only to

get more Christmas cookies, but rather to take a break from the intensity activities and school work tend to attract.

Instead of constantly focusing on keeping grades up while participating in multiple extracurriculars, enjoy some time to de-stress. After all, I think we've all earned a bit of a break.

Get a group of friends together to go ice skating or to have a movie night. Or maybe plan on having a family board game night some time over the long break.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Your Editor-in-Chief,

Ellen Nelson

## Sioux Falls approves construction of new Events Center in city

Tom Breske  
Sports Co-Editor

The people of Sioux Falls have spoken. With a 58% majority, the public has decided to build a new Events Center.

Over 23,000 votes were marked yes on Nov. 8, 2011, enough to garner a long-awaited victory for Events Center promoters.

"Finally, we can stop hearing about it," said sophomore Sam Breske.

The Events Center will be added on to the current Arena and will bring in many of the more popular national tours.

There were no new tax increases or cancellations of planned projects in or-

der to pay for the new Events Center.

"The Skyforce games are going to be intense now," said senior Austin Holzer.

The center will also be much larger than the Arena, coming to 13,000 seats at full capacity. The new capacity will allow large concerts.

The center will be paid for by selling \$115 million in bonds to the city of Sioux Falls, and it will take 22 years to repay.

It is believed that the Center will generate \$1 million to \$2.5 million in revenue each year.

The center will also spur the development of new hotels and restaurants on the north side of the city.

Construction begins next year and the project is scheduled to be finished by 2014.

### REDISTRICTING

Continued from page 1

South Dakota's total population increased from 754,844 people in 2000 to 814,810 people in 2010.

"The last time we did this was in 2001, and by now the target population for each district has gone up by about 2,000 people," said Wick.

Lincoln County saw the most growth in South Dakota, adding

86 percent of their 2001 population.

Minnehaha County also gained 21,201 citizens.

In the new bill, Sioux Falls will gain two new districts because of its massive population growth.

"We still have 35 districts; we only changed the size of each district, so less populated areas of South Dakota can receive the same representation as more densely populated areas," said Wick.

### CRIME

Continued from page 1

try their hand at it," said Officer Todd Runyan.

On average, the Sioux Falls Police Department responds to about 85,000 calls a year. However, not all of these calls are actual crimes.

"Nearly all crimes are committed because an opportunity was presented. If you don't provide that opportunity to a criminal the chances of you becoming a victim is reduced," said Barthel.

Runyan said that one of the best ways to protect oneself from a crime is common sense. Don't leave one's keys or valuables in a car and trust a gut feeling.

Barthel offers the advice to leave a front light on



Chief of Police  
Doug Barthel

as it makes a criminal's job more difficult.

"We have a great police department, but we can't do our jobs alone," said Barthel. "We need people to help be our eyes and ears and report anything that looks suspicious."

"We're also trying to get out into the community more and make it so that the community feels like they have a bigger role in what's going on," said Runyan.

"We would much rather spend the time working with citizens to prevent crimes than having to respond to them," said Barthel.

In addition to seeking for citizen involvement, the department has a program that will allow police officers to have a bit more responsibility to respond to certain situations. Officers can come up with an idea of how to combat a problem and the department will proceed with it if it makes sense.

"What the department is trying to do is make it so that every officer feels like if they have an idea we'll give it a try," said Runyan.

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All editorials are the sole opinion of the writer and do not necessarily represent the beliefs of the O'Gorman faculty, administration or the Knight Scroll.

### COLLEGE

Continued from page 1

"Although it may sound appealing, simply forgiving those loans will create other problems," said Kouri. "I understand that some may have trouble repaying their loans because of the economy, but if the loans are not repaid by the student, someone else will have to do it."

As the cost of tuition spikes around the nation, college bound seniors need to consider their financial plans carefully.

One local college that is undergoing a noticeable tuition increase is Augustana. Increasing 5.2 percent from 2010 to 2011, tuition at Augustana is currently \$32,990.

"This increase is standard, almost low, at a national level," said Brenda Murtha, the Director of Financial Aid at Augustana. "When the cost of business goes up, the cost of amenities goes up, making it hard to not increase tuition."

Along with boosting the economy, the heightening costs of tuition could inspire students to work more productively.

"With the cost of education rising so fast, it is going to make me focus on what I'm doing so that I can graduate in four years," said Kouri.

To stifle this hefty amount, applying for financial aid and scholarships is recommended.

"If you're an excellent student, scholarships can really help," said Murtha. "If you apply, colleges, such as Augustana, will provide with you with need based aid."

Kouri, who received a golf scholarship to SDSU, is planning on utilizing the money colleges can potentially provide for students.

"I do not plan on having a debt after college because of the scholarships I will receive, the college fund set aside by my parents, and my choice in college," said Kouri.

After graduating from Augustana, the average student debt for a four year education is \$26,000. In order to curtail this amount, graduates need to handle their money sensibly.

"First of all, if students are unemployed after college, they can utilize the Income Based Repayment plan," said Murtha. "Second of all, students need to think about where their discretionary income is going. In order to retain their money, graduates need to be responsible, refrain from buying unnecessary things, and make a budget."

In the end, the higher education received and the job opportunities presented to a student make allowing in student debt tolerable.

"A promising career path plays a large role your the ability to repay student loans," said Murtha. "A higher education is something you will have your entire life, so the price is worth it."



## Campus Ministry sets up Advent tree for Christmas

Frankie Maxwell  
Entertainment Co-Editor

This year campus ministry is aiming to get the student body involved and have them participate this year in Advent.

"We have tried increase participation in the events that we already sponsor by increasing student knowledge of them," said Campus Minister Jonathan Konz.

There will not be very many changes this year except that Campus Ministry will be decorating the windows in the cafeteria.

"We will be decorating it as a way to continue to recall everyone's hearts and minds to expectant joy of the season," said Konz.

As they have done in the past few years, they will continue their Advent service project through the Advent Angel Tree.

"We are working with Cami-

nando Juntos to alleviate some of the poverty that they experience," said Konz.

"It is important for us to remember to be the Church to

Every little  
bit helps.

-Jonathan Konz

those who are less fortunate than us."

Caminando Juntos is the hispanic mission of the Presentation Sisters in Sioux Falls. Students are invited to bring as much or as little as they care willing to give.

"Every little bit helps," said Konz. "A single person can provide for an entire family with a delicious meal on Christmas day."

Students can designate their donation to one of the four areas in need: food, infant necessities, gas, or international phone cards.

Once a student has brought un a gift of \$5 or more, he or she may hang an ornament of the Advent Angel Tree.

"Just as the ornaments add to the beauty of the tree, our Christian spirit in this season adds to the beauty of the community," said Konz. "Every little bit helps."

Students are welcomed to give what they have to the Advent Angle Tree.

"The best way students can get involved is to experience their own faith," said Konz. "This starts with Mass and prayer."

"We all have the power to do great things in this world," said Konz.

"Campus Mintry seeks to help each individual recognize that ability in his or her self.

## Spiritually adopted newborns receive monthly check-up

Cassie Wilka  
Activities Co-Editor

Spiritual Adoption has become an admired tradition here at O'Gorman High School. The process of naming and praying for an unborn child is a great way to live out responsibilities given to us as Catholic students.

Senior and adoptive parent Brian Billion is one of the many students who enjoy the process of spiritually adopting a child.

"As Catholics we must work together to protect not only the unborn but the elderly, the disabled and all those vulnerable in our society," said Billion.

By spiritually adopting and praying for unborn babies, students are fighting against the abortion.

"I adopted Galen. I have been praying for him, and I often picture a real child somewhere in the

world," said senior Lukas Pitzl. "It gives me hope that he will survive and live a full life."

"All life is sacred," said Billion. "However in the present state, our nation doesn't recognize the personhood of unborn babies."

With the many prayers from the students who adopted, anything is possible for these children of God. "I believe that the power of prayer can make anything happen," said Pitzl.

Spiritual adoption brings O'Gorman together as a community each year. Red hearts hanging on the lockers of adoptive parents help remind students to continue their prayers for the unborn.

"We do this as a community at O'Gorman," said Billion. "Through prayer and awareness that Campus Ministry provides through spiritual adoption, I truly believe we are saving lives."

## Father Joe Vogel discusses Advent, Christmas seasons

Our parish has begun a study in which the participants review and pray over Advent readings.

The title is not "Preparing for Christmas." Instead, it's "Preparing for Christ." There is a big difference between these two titles.

"Preparing for Christmas" can mean many things such as going shopping for gifts, going to your grandparents for Christmas dinner and making lists of gifts we would like to receive.

These activities are not necessarily what Christmas should be about.

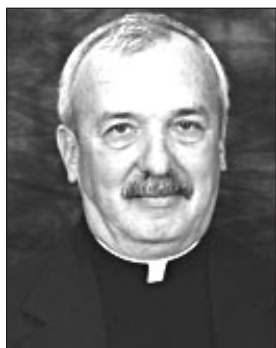
"Preparing for Christ" means that we make some changes in our lives that truly make room for Christ.

The birth of Christ is the beginning of our salvation and just as Jesus was born as a baby and grew, so must our efforts to make room for Christ begin with small things and grow bigger and bigger.

We hear in the Gospel of Luke that when Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem looking for a place for their child to be born, they ended up having the baby in a cave because there was "no room for them at the inn." This statement is also a spiritual condition.

We can be so busy during the season of Advent that when Christmas comes and Jesus is born, nothing really changes in our lives because there was "no room for Him at the inn" of our life.

Imagine the frustration of Joseph and Mary knowing that they were to give birth to the Savior, and no one would give them a place to have their baby.



Fr. Joe Vogel

We can be so worried about things such as grades, being liked and presents that we miss this great event that can save our souls.

Here are some practical ways to prepare for the coming of Christ and "make room at the inn."

1) Be quiet each day, even if it's only for five minutes. Stop by the chapel and be alone with God. 2) Ask God, "What do you want me to do right now in my life?" 3) See Jesus in all you meet today: friends, parents, siblings, teachers and anyone else. 4) Be nice to someone in school that might not have many friends. 5) Make a good confession and don't just say the same old things. Go deeper and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you. 6) Read the Bible every day, even if it's only one chapter.

Great things and events are worth preparing for in our lives. Nothing is more important than preparing for Jesus and making room for Him in your life.



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# Holiday classic arrives with new twists

Shae Krimmelbein  
Activities Co-Editor

With the fast approaching winter holiday, the O'Gorman High School Theater department kicks off the children's show with seasonal classic: *A Christmas Carol*.

In this performance, the show has an unprecedented twist - Jacob Marley is the story's narrator.

The story has been told many times before; an elderly man, Ebenezer Scrooge, hoards his money and gives none of it away and is visited by three ghosts. The ghosts chastise Scrooge for his greed.

After listening to the ghosts, he finds himself a changed man. The themes of the show are change, understanding and compassion.

O'Gorman is not the only Sioux Falls school to perform *A Christmas Carol* though. Lincoln High School is also performing the play on the same weekend. "I try not

to think about it. I don't want to make it into a competition," said director, Scott Nelson. "There are all kinds of renditions of the show. People should go see both."

The show has a few differences to the original. One way this show differs from the original is the way that the story progresses with narration. "Last time I did this show, Charles Dickens narrated," said Nelson.

The show also contains a slightly different script in comparison to past performances.

"I chose it for the large cast and for the fact that Marley narrates," said Nelson.

The O'Gorman drama department is also going to sponsor a charity event in honor of the season. The items asked for will be toys and canned goods.

*A Christmas Carol* brings much to the holiday sentiment. "I enjoy the show and story," said Nelson. "The theme and message are very important to retell."



ELLEN NELSON / KNIGHT SCROLL

Students rehearse a scene for the upcoming children's show *A Christmas Carol*. The show opens Dec. 9.

## Interp team sees early success, pushes on into second season

Jake Rogers  
Entertainment Co-Editor

It has been a successful year so far for the O'Gorman Oral Interp team, and they are looking to continue that success all the way to Nationals.

"We are having a fantastic season," said coach Teresa Fester, "The dedication from all members is outstanding, and we have just matched up kids with the right pieces. We have taken first or second at every tournament and have a pretty consistent number of people in finals."

Fester credits this season's success to a mix of senior leadership, and the underclassmen's ability to step up and perform at a high level.

"Upperclassmen...have been vital parts of our success, each bring a strength to each category," said Fester. "Also, this group of freshmen is like no other I have worked with in the past. Typically, I have a small group of freshmen that really understand the activity but this year - boy, do they get it!"

"They are extremely talented and have definitely made me ex-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The oral interp team celebrates a successful tournament. The team hopes to continue this success the rest of the year and into Nationals.

cited for the future of interp and performing arts at OGHS."

Fester is happy with the way that the upperclassmen and the underclassmen have bonded, and says that the comradeship is a reason why the Knights have been performing well this year.

"The guidance of the seniors has been the most valuable. A core group of seniors, Charlie Solomon, Ellen Nelson, Joey Bezenek, Genevieve Fuller and Frankie Maxwell have invested the most in the novice students. Having upperclass-

men invest in our new members has definitely been one of my favorite parts of the year. It is fun to see seniors celebrate the success of someone they have taken under their wings."

With the abundance of talent this year, Fester says that she will have a tough time choosing who to take to the national qualifier as she is only allowed four entries in each category. "So, they have to continue to step it up in the next few months and we will see how it all plays out."

## Annual choir concert prepares to take stage in remodeled Cathedral

Frankie Maxwell  
Entertainment Co-Editor

Vespers is back this Christmas but this time it will be held in the Cathedral. For the past two years Vespers was held at a different venue because of the construction on the Cathedral.

"It is a good opportunity for us to perform at the Cathedral," said senior Charlie Solomon. "The Cathedral is beautiful, and I am very excited."

This year the choir has gone through some changes after departure of last year's seniors.

"It will be tough to compare to last year because of the talent of the choir," said Solomon. "I do have faith that we will be able to do better than last year, though."

All of the different choirs will be performing such as show choir, mixed chorus and girl's chorus.

"The music this year is difficult but it sounds amazing," said Solomon.

Solomon's personal favorite of the music will be the "O Magnum Mysterium."

"It is a pretty sweet song," said Solomon. "It is definitely going to be my highlight of the night."

Another song that Solomon said the audience should listen for is the "Hallelujah."

"It will be song by all of the different choirs and also the O'Gorman Alumni," said Solomon.

"The best part about Vespers this year is, again, performing at the Cathedral," said Solomon.

"Singing in front an audience at the gorgeous new building will be a wonderful experience."

## Quiz Bowl team aims for return trip to national tournament

Miranda Masek  
Opinion Editor

A combination of intellect, speed, and fun, Quiz Bowl is gaining members and momentum.

After already competing at two competitions, one at West Central and one at USF, the team looks to have a repeat of last year's success at the National Academic Quiz Bowl in Atlanta, Ga.

Jonathan Shaeffer, Quiz Bowl veteran and captain, is setting his goals high. "I hope to help the program grow and become a national contender in the near future," said Shaeffer.

The team meets every Monday to practice questions used last year. Many members are self-professed "experts" in one area, such as Hindu mythology.

The team lost several competitors last

year, but they aren't letting that keep them from doing well.

"The challenges facing this year's team are that this is their first season for many of the quiz bowlers," said Mr. Chad LeBrun, the team's coach. "They are learning the format of the competitions."

Even with a primarily young team, Quiz Bowl is looking for success in the competitions to come.



MIRANDA MASEK / KNIGHT SCROLL

Mr. LeBrun assists a student in finding an answer.





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# Steffl balances academics, athletics

Josh Jorgensen  
Veronica Fritsch

Homecoming King, band member, student council representative, academic student, and football star. It is a rare occurrence when all of these aspects are characteristic of a single person.

However, for senior Sam Steffl, these are just a few accomplishments on his long list of academic, athletic and musical talent, playing the trumpet.

Steffl's polished resume and balanced involvement in extra-curricular activities prompts the question as to how one person can be successful in so many areas.

"The balancing of activities is time consuming, but it was all right because Dr. Niles, my band director, and my football coaches were willing to make accommodations," says Steffl.

Having Sam as a student for three years, Calculus teacher Ken Lindemann has been able to see first-hand how Sam's mentality and work ethic in the classroom translated to the football field.

"Some people are simply willing to outwork the field no matter if it is sports, academics or a job. Sam seems to be one of those people. His competitive nature shows up in school and on the football field," says Lindemann.

Lindemann has also been able to the progression Sam has made

as a math student from his freshman to senior year.

"Sam used to love to be the first one done with his tests. He'd turn them in 20 minutes before the second paper came in and for a while, he always got 100 percent. Now he is still fast, but he has gotten to the point where accuracy matters to him too, so he is far more meticulous," says Lindemann.

Aside from being an exceptional math student, Lindemann stated that it is Steffl's love for proofs and anticipation of calculus concepts days before they are taught that set him apart from others. "His sense of humor is his best quality," said Lindemann.

Along with a heavy course load of five AP classes, Steffl took a leading role on the Knights football team. He entered the season as starting fullback for the Knights, who hoped to make their second straight appearance in the Dakota Dome.

Steffl had expected the team to make it to the championship because of the success of the previous season.

"Not making it to state was disappointing, but I was proud of how we did this season, especially in dealing with the injuries and setbacks we had," said Steffl.

The final game of the season against Roosevelt possessed not only a state championship trip, but also the potential for Steffl to pass the all time school rushing



KNIGHT SCROLL

Senior Sam Steffl (41) carries the ball during the Presidents Bowl game between O'Gorman and Roosevelt. Roosevelt won the game 19-14.

record, held by Danny Issacson.

Obviously losing in the semifinals was disappointing, but Steffl noted that the unfortunate events dealt to the team at the end of the season impacted their overall game.

"There's not much you can do when a lot of players are hurt and playing out of position. I feel like we got unlucky with all this happening around playoffs," said Steffl.

Unfortunately, as the Roosevelt game came to a close, so did Steffl's chances of passing the rushing record, which he was only 15 yards shy.

However, his team goals were priority. "I don't mind not breaking the rushing record. It was a fun side goal to have this season, but I was more concerned about winning a championship."

With football season over, the clock starts to tick regard-

ing college decisions. Undecided where he will study next year, Steffl stated, "I'm going to college to study engineering, most like to get a B.A.S. degree. I also plan on playing college football."

Mr. Lindemann added that he hopes to see Sam as an engineer or math teacher at a college and hopefully in some highlights on ESPN as well.

## Lady Knights take 6th in state; fall to Warriors in consolation

Josh Jorgensen  
Sports Co-Editor

The Lady Knights took sixth place in the State AA Volleyball tournament held Nov. 17-19 at the Sioux Falls Arena.

After capturing the district crown with wins over Watertown and Roosevelt, the Lady Knights had momentum on their side as they rolled into the state tournament.

In the first round of state volleyball action, the Lady Knights were pitted against second-seeded Lincoln.

They were dropped by Lincoln in three straight sets, 17-25, 13-25, 21-25. The Lady Knights had defeated Lincoln earlier in the year.

In consolation play the Lady Knights topped Mitchell, 20-25, 27-25, 25-17, 25-20.

In the consolation championship O'Gorman fell to Washington in four sets, 25-21, 18-25, 19-25, 20-25.

It was the Lady Knights' first appearance in the state tournament since 2003.

## Rough Riders upend Knights in semifinal rematch 23-16

Josh Jorgensen  
Veronica Fritsch

The outcome did not match the expectation as the Knights lost their semi-final game to Sioux Falls Roosevelt 23-16 on Nov. 5.

"We wanted to go to the dome, but we also wanted to have a fun time," said senior safety Weston Bednar.

The first match-up with Roosevelt, on Presidents Bowl, ended with them losing 19-14, but a lot of positives came from it. The defense stepped up in the second half, and had the game within grips after the first half debacle.

After the loss, the Knights steam-rolled Washington at Dakota Bowl. The defense began to step up, allowing just 41 points over a span of six weeks.

"(A top highlight of this season) was definitely the win at Dakota Bowl over Washington," said head coach Steve Kueter.

In the last game of the regular season, the Knights faced a Lincoln Patriots team that hadn't beaten the Knights in 31 at-

tempts.

Early in the game the Knights lost a key component to the offense with a Flynn Donelan collarbone injury that sidelined him for the rest of the year. Lincoln won on a last minute touchdown, 29-28.

"Injuries definitely had a factor on the season. We lost a couple of starters and that was tough for other kids," said Kueter.

Going into the playoffs the Knights earned the third seed and were pitted against Yankton in a quarter-final match-up.

After dismantling the sixth seeded Bucks, the Knights met up with Roosevelt once again.

After taking an early 6-0 lead, the Knights rebounded and went up 13-6 at half time. The wind was definitely a factor, allowing the Knights to score three field goals. It also served to hurt the Knights.

"The wind helped Roosevelt pass the ball deep," said Bednar.

The third quarter proved to be the difference in the game, as Roosevelt scored 17 unanswered points in the quarter.

"The third quarter hurt, we just didn't

come out to play," said Bednar.

The fourth quarter started with the Knights down 23-13, but an Alex Millard field goal put the game within a touchdown. The Knights got the ball back late in the fourth quarter after a botched punt at the Roosevelt 30 yard line.

"Yes, I did feel like we were going to score on that drive," said Kueter.

The Knights were then stuck at fourth and 2 on the 10 yard line. The pass from quarterback Connor Schaeffbauer went right off the hands of his receiver, and Roosevelt repossessed the ball. Roosevelt won 23-16 and went on to beat Washington in the state championship 31-17.

"(Coming back next year) we have a good group of juniors, and some good sophomores. It should be another good O'Gorman season," said Kueter.

Next year the Knights look to avenge the semifinal loss and make it to the dome, returning a laundry list of starters.

"(Advice to the underclassmen) work hard in the offseason and don't skip out on workouts, and take each play for granted," said Bednar.



# Knights basketball aims to repeat success

Tom Breske  
Dusty Haffeman

## Boys

Coming off of back-to-back state championships, the boy's basketball team has no intent to put the brakes on now. The road to the state tournament this year may be the Knight's toughest one yet compared to recent years. With key players all graduating last season, the Knights are going to have some big shoes to fill this upcoming year.

Leading the charge for O'Gorman will be head coach Derek Robey. Robey will be heading into his seventh season with the Knights. He has a 113-34 record in his six seasons at O'Gorman. To add to the unbelievable record, Robey has led the Knights to four out of the last six state titles.

"There are never any gimmies in a schedule," said Robey. "We will have to be ready night in and night out if we want to be there in the end."

Battling a tough schedule will be a major concern for the inexperienced Knights.

Sam Wallin is the only returning starter though Connor Schaeffbauer has also seen plenty of playing time. Other payers that will have to step up include seniors Austin Ridl, Nick Mimmack, Ryan Lindberg and Jake

Rogers. Juniors include Kyle Scholten, Tyler Pals and Landen Mack.

Austin Ridl, a six-foot senior, will be the defensive specialist for the Knights. "A personal goal of mine will be to shut down all of the star players on every team we face," said Ridl.

The toughest opponents this year for the Knights include Lincoln, Pierre and Mitchell. In addition to these in state opponents, the Knights will be playing Central, Tennessee and La Lumiere, Ind. in the Mike Miller Classic this December.

Last year, the Knights played Findlay Prep, Nevada, and suffered what would turn out to be their only loss of the season.

Another concern for the Knights will be their lack of size. "We are going to be looking to junior Tyler Pals to help compliment Wallin and Mimmack in the post," said Ridl.

"Every year brings new motivation and excitement," said Robey. "We look forward to the many challenges and obstacles that come with each new season."

Practice begins Monday, Nov. 28, and the Knights open their season in Rapid City on Dec. 9.

## Girls

After a deep run to the finals

in the playoffs last year, the Lady Knights are ready earn a state championship crown, but it won't be easy.

"The entire AA field is as wide open as it gets," said veteran head coach Kent Kolsrud. South Dakota girls basketball has been gaining momentum in recent years.

The Lady Knights are coming back from a loss to Brandon Valley in the state championship game last year.

"To get that close and not get it is motivation to be better this year," said senior point guard Chandler Nielson.

Ten players return from last year's varsity squad.

"Most of us played lots of minutes last year as juniors," said Nielsen.

Junior Allie Kneip will bring even more depth to the team.

"Defense and rebounding win games," said Kolsrud. "That's our most important focus."

The competition this year will be intense, "Brandon, Yankton, Mitchell, RC Stevens and Aberdeen Central all bring back good teams, and the Sioux Falls games are always very exciting and competitive," said Kolsrud.

In South Dakota, many different schools are lining up for a shot at the 2012 crown. "Rapid City Stevens and Aberdeen Cen-



ELLEN NELSON / KNIGHT SCROLL

Both basketball teams start the season against Rapid City Stevens in December.

tral will be some of our biggest competition," said Nielsen.

Practice started on Nov. 21. "Our main goal this year is to have great team chemistry," said Kolsrud. "We need the whole team working as a unit for the

benefit of one common goal."

The Lady Knights are getting ready for key games against Brandon and Aberdeen Central. They start the four-month season in Rapid City on Dec. 9 against Stevens.

## Wrestlers to open '11-'12 season with several returning members

Jake Schreck  
Entertainment Co-Editor

The O'Gorman High School wrestling team begins their season with a mix of accomplished veterans, new young talent, and plenty of senior leadership.

"It's nice that this year we will have a combination of veteran juniors and seniors, but we will also use our younger guys," said head coach Jeff Gordon. Gordon has been coaching the wrestling team for 35 years.

"We have the luxury of returning five seniors, the most accomplished of whom are Tyler Peltier and Ben Fichter, and we also have good senior talent in Zach Shaw and Dylan Bakken," he said.

Peltier finished fifth in state last year in the 119 pound division, and Fichter finished fifth in the 130 pound division. This year, Peltier and Fichter will take leading roles on the squad.

The wrestlers have high expectations for the team this year, especially the seniors, who

are eager to make one last run at state.

"I expect that at least a third of our team will qualify for state this year," said senior Tyler Peltier, who holds the school record for most wins in a season. "We will face challenges at first, but the victory road is in plain view."

One of the keys to success for this team is the bond between the accomplished upperclassmen, and the new underclassmen.

Peltier embraces his role as a leader, helping the underclassmen to become better wrestlers.

"I feel that Ben Fichter, Conor Tomac, and myself will lead the team this year," said Peltier.

"I was a born leader. I remind the underclassmen that pain is just weakness leaving the body," said Peltier. "Through hard work, dedication, and perseverance, you can truly become a Knight."

Coach Gordon agrees with the wrestlers' high hopes and



ELLEN NELSON / KNIGHT SCROLL

Wrestlers leads a warm up before wrestling practice. The wrestling team is preparing for their first meet on Dec. 3

expects the team to improve throughout the year.

"We always want the team to grow and improve, while being competitive," said Gordon. "We want the guys to be successful, and at the end we want a state champion."

The Knights wrestling team will open the season in Sioux Falls on Dec. 3 at the Roosevelt Invite.

## Gymnastics team anticipates success with strength, grace

Cassie Wilka  
Activities Co-Editor

Though most sports require brute strength and aggression, gymnastics is a different story. The ability to combine strength with grace is what O'Gorman High School's gymnasts work so hard to master through multiple years of training and conditioning.

Senior gymnast Josie Heisel is a 15 year veteran and has been a high level gymnast for most of her life. Her determination to master skills and overcome fear has paid off in return for successful seasons.

"My favorite part is performing in front of people," said Heisel. "That's when you feel the most accomplished because of all the hard work you have put into this sport."

Heisel is the only senior this year. However, she has high hopes for the gymnastics team. "The team is really young, so we can start to build up for years to come."

After practicing every day after school from 2:30 - 5:45, the 2011-2012 gymnastics team is determined to do well this season.

"I think that it will be better than

last year because there is a lot of talent," said Heisel. "Especially with the team being so young."

With only one senior, two sophomores and three freshmen, the team is primarily made up of girls from the junior high.

Despite the young ages, the team still works hard in preparation for competitions. The vigorous practices consist of cardio workouts, work on routines and skills and then a challenging strength workout at the end of the day.

The team has high hopes for the season not only in regards to scoring, but also with team unity.

"I hope that we work together better in order to meet our individual goals and to compete well as a team against other schools," said Heisel.

"The team is a great group of girls and I think it will be a great season," she said.

When deciding on her future in gymnastics, she will not be able to compete at the college level due to an injury. "I just want to have fun with it and enjoy my senior year," said Heisel.

The gymnastics team will compete at the 2012 state tournament in February.



# Stores entice shoppers with deals, decorations

Cassi Wilka  
Lauren Bird

Bustling crowds, tempting sales, and corporate driven decorations are all aspects of the Christmas shopping season.

The time has come to purchase the gifts that loved ones desire.

With the frantic rush of this process, people often disregard the behind the scenes handiwork of employees.

Terri Rogers, mother of Senior Jake Rogers, is on the decorating council for Scheels.

"We come in on Sunday nights or before the store opens," said Rogers. "We spend a lot of time planning and looking at how we're going to decorate and where we are going to put everything months before we actually do it."

As a former Macy's decorator, Rogers is accustomed to the chaotic hype of Christmas.

"During the Christmas season I definitely work from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.," said Rogers. "With the constant trail of people going in and out, we are already selling out of items and having to order new merchandise."

Senior and employee at Aerie,

Hollie Zwart sacrifices her social life to complete hours at the popular teenage store during the Christmas season.

"I go to work right after school and then I come home and go straight to sleep," said Zwart. "I have to wake up extra early every morning to finish my homework."

Christmas at the mall requires endless hours of preparation.

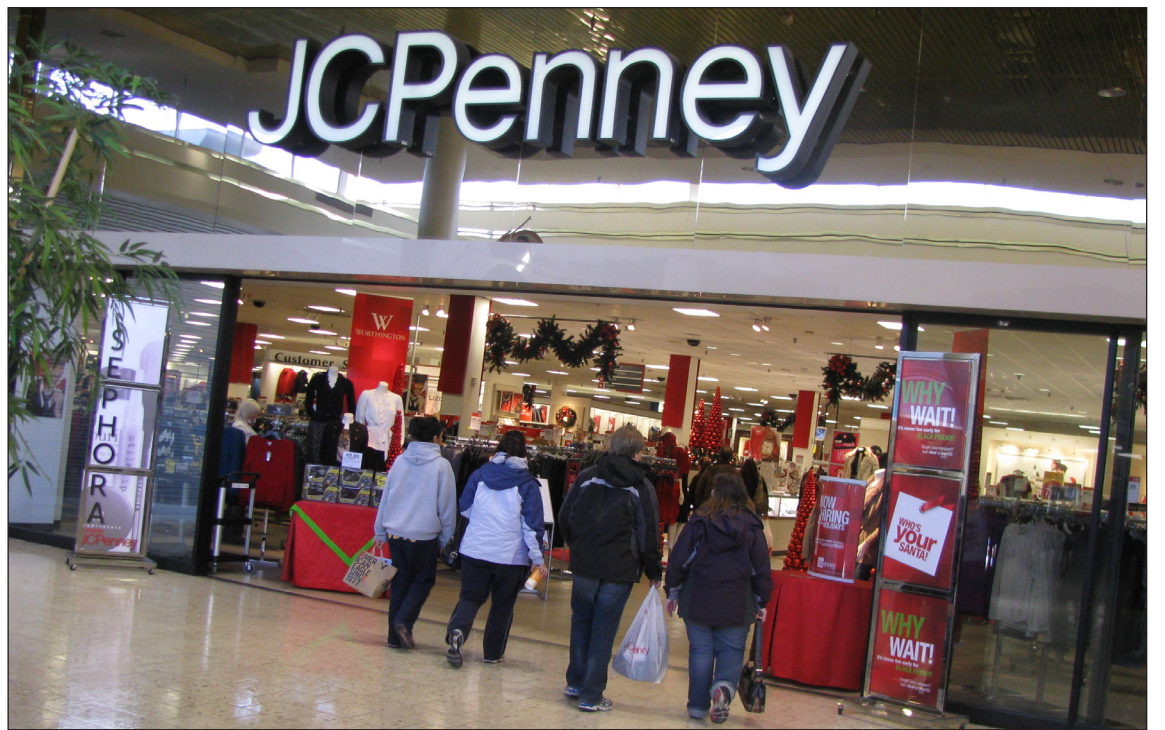
"At the end of October, business starts to wildly pick up," said Zwart. "We start setting up Christmas decorations before Halloween. I love the Christmas season because there's always something to do and I'm busy selling products."

The hustle of this wintry time of year results in stressed and irritable customers.

"I hate when customers leave the stuff they try on in the changing room all sprawled on the floor," said Zwart. "There are too many customers and too few associates."

Bringing the animal instinct out of people, customers resort to crafty methods of claiming desirable items.

"We find products in the craziest places that customers have hidden over the season," said



SHAE KRIMMELBEIN / KNIGHT SCROLL

Customers flow into JC Penney for some afternoon shopping. Black Friday sales were up over last year.

Rogers. "A popular place to hide items is the clearance section because people don't think people will look there."

Aside from the craziness of this shopping season, one of the better aspects is the atmosphere shoppers experience while purchasing gifts.

"I love the Christmas aura

and the lights," said Zwart.

The decorations are chosen by the companies which are run nationally.

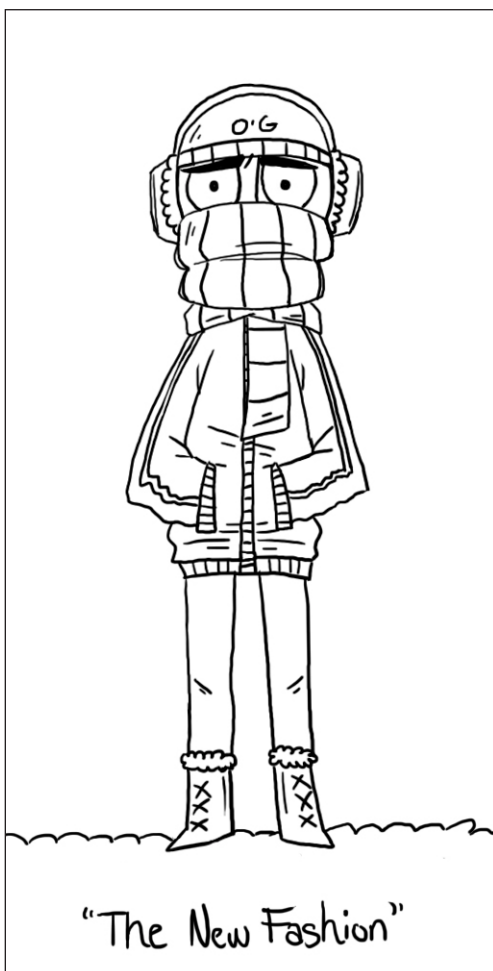
"This is the first time it is all corporate driven," said Rogers. "They choose everything that goes into the store, from the number of Christmas trees to the colors of the ornaments."

Rogers explains that even though this time of year is stressful, the employees remember the spirit of the season and keep a positive attitude.

"That's what I love about decorating for Christmas; it is such a friendly environment to work in," said Rogers.

## The New Fashion

Kelcie Rushing



Ellen Nelson  
Editor-in-Chief

With a record number of Pavilion Performance Series subscriptions in the last year, the Washington Pavilion is expecting to have a successful 2012.

"Early 2011 proved to be the beginning of a renaissance for the arts in Sioux Falls," said Michele Wellman, Director of marketing and Communications at the Washington Pavilion.

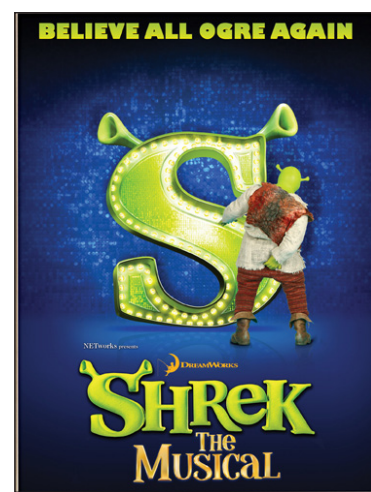
This resurgence can be seen in the well-attended exhibitions the Pavilion offers and numerous performances selling out months in advance.

With several well-known shows coming the Pavilion, Wellman expects the attendance to continue to thrive. Already, "several 2012 shows are all sold out or nearly sold out."

The Washington Pavilion will play host to several recognizable shows in the coming months. Visiting shows include *Mamma Mia!*, *In the Heights*, *Shrek the Musical*, and *The Midtown Men*.

There are also various concerts and dance companies that will be showcased throughout the year.

# Sold out shows set to hit stage at Pavilion in upcoming year



PRESS PHOTO / DREAMWORKS

*Shrek The Musical* is one of the shows that will be performed at the Pavilion in 2012.

"I think we offer an enticing and diverse line up that audiences can recognize as well as desire as a part of their performance requests," said Wellman. "Whether you like traditional Broadway, comedy, dance, or the spoken word, there is something for everyone at the Pavilion."

O'Gorman senior Anna Hassel said that she enjoys viewing the performances that visit the Pavilion.

"The shows are never bad and

it's a good source of entertainment," said Hassel.

With the building of the new Event Center, the Washington Pavilion will not have to compete for talent because of the difference in capacity levels.

"A majority of Broadway performances prefer a medium sized venue to provide a true Broadway experience," said Wellman. "However, we will be competing over entertainment dollars, scholarship dollars and financial support dollars from the city."

These dollars are used to help maintain the building and keep the theater at its best.

"It's a fun place to watch shows and a nice venue," said Hassel. "It's well organized and classy, and the view is great no matter where you're at."

To market for visiting shows visiting the venue, the Washington Pavilion will use traditional marketing tools, such as radio and TV promotions. "Online is becoming a prevalent tool in our goal to reach wider audiences, but traditional media still prevails in this market," said Wellman. "Guerilla marketing and non-traditional media tactics are not as effective."



## Classic Christmas films live in fans' hearts

Frankie Maxwell  
Josh Jorgensen

10. *Elf*- We had to put this movie on the list for the Will Ferrell fans. Even though he plays the same role in just about every movie he's in, Ferrell's character Buddy the Elf will be remembered the most.

His childish antics make this film a good Christmas comedy.

9. *Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer*- From the song to the great clay animation film, no Christmas is complete without the infamous Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.

8. *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*- DO NOT think this is the Jim Carrey version. The cartoon film trumps Jim Carrey every-time. Watching the Grinch find the true meaning of Christmas is a tender experience that will be enjoyed by all.

7. *Scrooged*- Bill Murray kills it in the modern day adaptation of the classic story, "A Christmas Carol." The killer scene in this movie is when the Ghost of Christmas Past visits Bill Murray. Watch it. You'll know what

we mean.

6. *A Charlie Brown Christmas*- No fake field goal attempts by Lucy in this Christmas special. In this lovable tale, Snoopy and the Peanuts find the true importance of Christmas.

5. *Home Alone*- Who doesn't want to watch Macaulay Culkin stick it to burglars played by Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern?

This film takes the young and old on a fantastic journey filled with pranks and nonstop Christmas fun.

4. *Miracle on 34th Street*- This classic will melt anyone's heart. It's the stuff that any great Christmas film is made of - happiness, sappiness and even a few tears.

3. *Just Friends*- Ryan Reynolds strikes gold in this 2005 classic. You find yourself quoting lines from it for weeks with your friends.

In that time span you will find that you watched it maybe 20 times and every time it somehow got better.

It is personally our favorite and we can honestly say we



PRESS PHOTO / WARNER BROS.

A classic scene from *A Christmas Story*, where Flick faces the triple dog dare and has to stick his tongue on a flag pole and his tongue freezes to it. The scene is an iconic moment in cinema history.

watched it about 100 times together. No joke.

2. *Christmas Vacation*- Chevy Chase captures cinema glory with this slap stick comedy about a Christmas dinner that goes south quickly.

1. *A Christmas Story*- Between

the famous line "You'll shoot your eye out" and the leg-lamp, everyone in American watches this movie on Christmas day.

There is no better way to spend Christmas morning, afternoon, and night watching Ralphie walk down the stairs in his

deranged bunny outfit.

Even though the NBA will be having games on Christmas day, they will most likely be rusty. So if you don't want to watch Kobe brick a ton of threes, then tune in for *A Christmas Story*.

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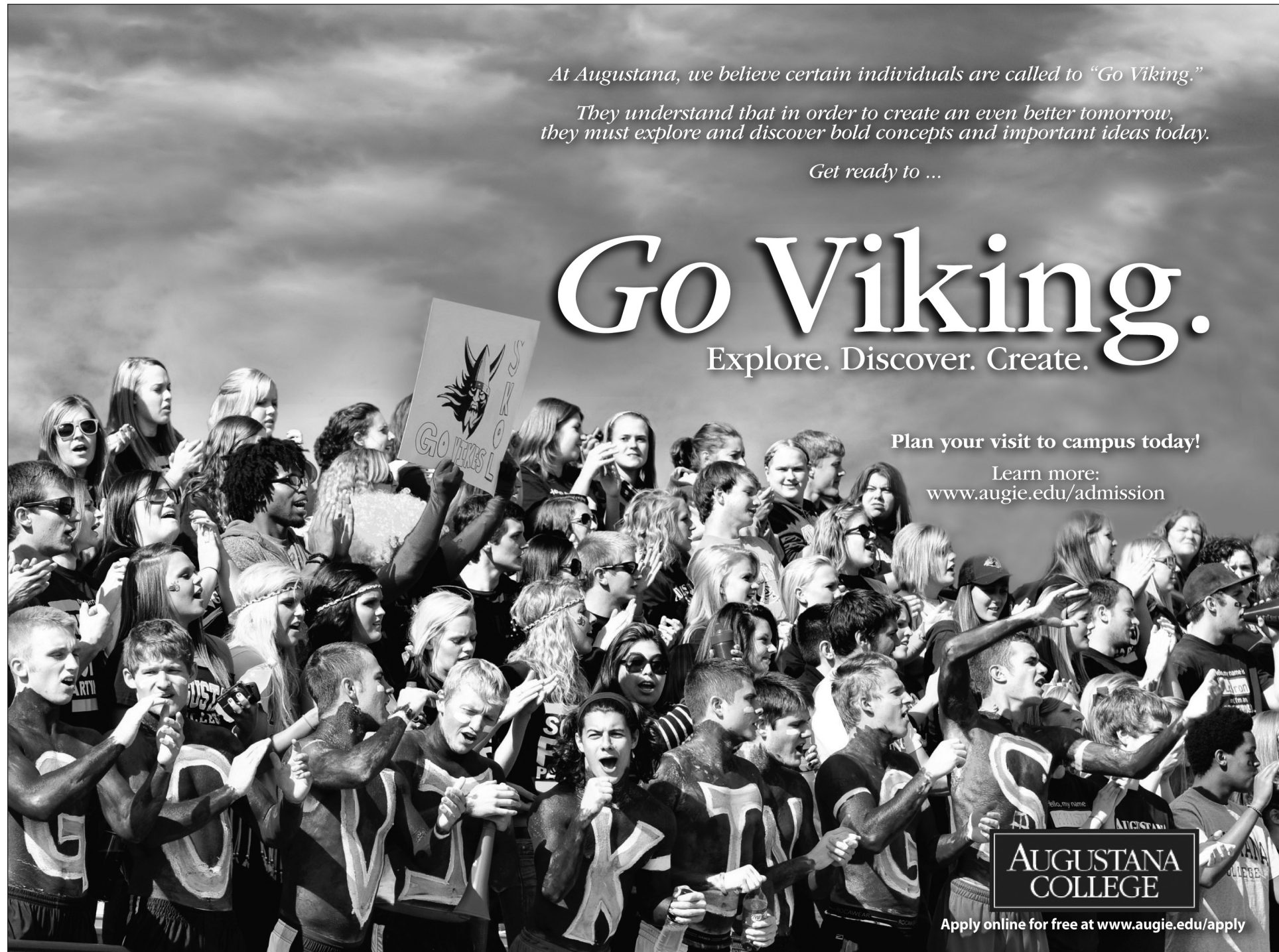
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# Krav'n has inexpensive, fun food for everyone

There's no better way to start a meal than with cotton candy. It's simply the perfect appetizer. And at Krav'n, it comes with the meal.

For the December issue the *Scroll* staff decided to review a restaurant. Krav'n seemed like a fun place to visit as it has only been open since March of 2011.

Our initial observations were that the restaurant had a warm and sporty atmosphere. The lighting was spot on as it struck a great balance between light and dark. Another plus was that Krav'n wasn't overly crowded or loud.

Krav'n also had multiple TVs set up around the room, though all of them were playing the same game.

Overall, the service was great and contained qualities that every restaurant should have. Our server was friendly as well as prompt. Another plus was that the cotton candy bowls were quickly refilled.

Next to the cotton candy, the



The *Knight Scroll* staff enjoys a night out while reviewing the Krav'n. The restaurant is located on Louise Ave, south of 69th Street.

dishware was probably one of the best aspects of the restaurant – they were square! And all of them were just the right depth.

The food got mixed review with scoring anywhere from an A to a B-. The French fries were amazing, but one can find better gyros elsewhere. The chicken wings and queso scored higher.

All of the food was amazingly priced.

Would the *Scroll* staff recommend Krav'n as a fun place to eat? Absolutely. It's affordable, charming, and somewhat relaxing.

**Overall Rating:**  
**A-**

## In-and-Out

Basketball

Football

COD

Any Social Life

Krav'n

Bracco

Mac Miller

Wiz Khalifa

Event Center

Arena

Bieber's Baby

Song "Baby"

Advent

Ordinary Time

The Hunger Games

Twilight Series

New Incentives

No Incentives

## Photo Survey

"Where is the best place to shop for Christmas and why?"



"Target. It has all your Christmas needs."



"My sister's [Kirsti] closet. Why not?"



"Auntie Anne's because deliciousness is the best gift."



"Forever 21, because it's heaven in store form."

# College expenses cause concern as students begin future plans

Miranda Masek  
Opinion Editor

As seniors make college decisions, the question of paying for their higher education is brought to the forefront.

Tuition and other expenses can typically be a struggle for the college student just starting out, especially considering the competition for scholarships.

According to The College Board, in 2011 and 2012, 44% of undergraduate students attended a four-year college and paid less than \$9,000 a year for tuition and fees.

However, approximately 28% of full-time private four-year college students pay \$36,000 or more annually in tuition and fees.

A popular choice to lessen the burden of college fees are scholarships.

"I'm hoping to get a running scholarship or academic scholarship of some sort – and probably financial aid," said Connor Branick, senior.

Scholarships are a common way students look to pay for tuition. And the more one applies, the more one can earn. Plus, there's no harm in applying for extra scholarships – even if there isn't a guarantee you'll get it. There's no harm in trying. By doing research online or talking to a guidance counselor, a student can find many small scholarships they qualify for. Many small scholarships can amount to a large amount of money.

Some students already have their funds for tuition saved up.

"My grandparents set up a fund for us when we were little so I don't have to worry about tuition but I'll have to work for my living expenses

during college," said senior Kayla Hillberg.

Thinking ahead about college and saving beforehand can help lessen anxiety.

A higher pricetag on a university doesn't necessarily mean it's unaffordable or will take the rest of your life to pay off.

Higher-priced universities sometimes have bigger endowments and more grant aid available – especially ones based on familial income.

Even so, students are working in and out of school in order to get more money for college.

The competition for scholarships and grants can make student loans more attractive. The next issue, however, becomes paying off those loans.

In order to determine if college loans are right for them, students can look at the price of the colleges they're looking at and then consider how much money they will earn after schooling. If the salary is considerably less than the student loan, it would be wiser to choose another university with fitting programs for a better price.

Financial aid is also not an uncommon way to pay for schooling. The College Board said that in 2010 and 2011, roughly \$178 billion in financial aid was given to undergraduate students.

With that amount, it can be readily available to those who qualify.

For a full-time undergraduate student, the average amount of aid was about \$12,455, comprised of more than \$6,500 in grants that don't have to be recompensed.

For the student going to college and hasn't won the lottery, there are many options for aid.

The reality of the situation is that with scholarships or student loans, college is affordable – or at least manageable.



## Alumnus shares fond memories of '80s

Katy (Dougherty) Billion  
Guest Writer

Life at O'Gorman High School in the early '80s was filled with classes, friendships and activities. No different than life at O'Gorman in this decade.

Some classes have changed, or perhaps more accurately, evolved. For example, typing has become keyboarding. Computer class was just being introduced, consisting of developing a "program" with configurations that now seem obsolete, floppy disks instead of flash drives. I am still not sure what I learned from that class.

We had the requirements of religion (shout out to Leo Lorang), English, math and science. I don't recall any AP classes (if they had them, I guess I was not in them). A popular elective was home economics where you learned to cook, sew and orga-

nize a week of day care for small children.

Choir was by placement, A chorus, B chorus and if you wanted more, a select group of choir members formed The Madrigal Singers. Chalkboards and overhead projectors have been replaced with smart boards and Infinite Campus.

Today every class has computer links where we had library file cards. The educational goal back then, as now, was to graduate a well-educated, well-rounded student, prepared for college or wherever life took you after graduation. That objective still remains.

The uniform for girls was a brown plaid skirt. We could wear any color top and it was most fashionable to match your knee-high socks to your shirt of the day. For boys it was pants in the "brown family" and colored shirts. (Some things never

change).

Activities at O'Gorman were a highlight of school. Most of the sports/clubs from the '80s still exist. They may have evolved, but the spirit remains the same.

We did not have soccer, baseball, softball or competitive cheer and dance. Our cheerleaders were sideline cheerleaders for football and wrestling or boys and girls basketball. The dance team was a large group of girls called "The Pages" who would perform either pregame or at halftime.

Musicals were an annual highlight. Our cast of *Godspell* was so highly acclaimed; they turned it into a part-time job, performing the show through the summer at The Barn Theater. We had oral interpretation, but not nearly at the level of excellence the O'Gorman program enjoys today.

The Dakota Bowl and championships in the dome were

showcases for our athletes and have only continued to grow. The playoff format for basketball was much different in the '80s, with a sectional tournament each year with O'Gorman, Lincoln, Washington and Brandon sending only the winner on to the state tournament. (There was no Roosevelt at the time).

Homecoming week was filled with excitement. Always something each day, decorating lockers, making a favorite dessert for your date, or buying an anonymous carnation for a secret crush. Variety show and Coronation was Thursday night, football game Friday night and a formal dance on Saturday night. Some went stag while many boys (most often) would ask a girl to be his date (similar to winter formal). We attended in suits and fancy dresses, enjoying the dance in the O'Gorman gym. It was well attended and lots of fun.

By senior year you earned the option to spend your study hall hanging out in the cafeteria. There was a lot of pitch card games that took place and fun fellowship amongst your peers.

Graduation was held in the O'Gorman gym and once we graduated there was no "All Knighter". The year I graduated two families hosted a street party for our class. I did not have a graduation "open house" and not many did. We perhaps received a card and a "pat on the back" for graduation.

Though times have changed at O'Gorman High School over the past 30 years, the faith filled curriculum and the spirit of community remains as strong as ever. I am proud to be an O'Gorman graduate from the '80s and am blessed that my four children will have the O'Gorman experience.

Katy Billion graduated in 1983.



Maggie -



Will you go to formal with me?



- Dusty





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